

Application No.: 10/540605
Docket No.: CH2856USPCT

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Page 2

Amendments to SpecificationAmend the Specification at page 1, lines 12 to 19 as follows:

In this application the titanium dioxide pigmented paper is saturated with a laminating resin and subjected to heat and pressure to produce a hard surface laminate in which oxygen is absent. The titanium dioxide on exposure to UV light tends to gray as the concentration of Ti^{2+} ions are produced without the continual conversion by air oxidation of the ions back to the Ti^{4+} state.

Many techniques have been employed to make a light fast titanium dioxide pigment from the use of a calcination step in the pigment manufacture to the use of redox couples such as Ce^{2+}/Ce^{4+} to keep the titanium ion in the colorless $4+$ oxidation state. But the use of such oxidation couples may lead to a yellowing of the titanium dioxide. Calcination on the other hand adds time and cost to pigment manufacture.

Amend the Specification at page 4, line 36 to page 5, line 2 as follows:

In the present invention it is preferred that following step (e) the mixture is filtered and the pigment recovered and washed and dried then micronized at a temperature of from 200°C and above. In one embodiment, the mixture is filtered and the pigment recovered and washed and dried then micronized at a temperature of from 200 to 420°C.